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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ABBREVIATED ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year 1946.

R. T. E. MAISMITH, M.B., B.S.

COLNE VALLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Health Dept.,
Town Hall,
Linthwaite.

Lady & Gentlemen,

The report is again presented in its abbreviated form, and detailed statistics are filed for future reference. The year has seen the completion of the disposal of Government Stores provided in connection with the Evacuation Scheme.

Mr. Varley, Sanitary Inspector, retired on superannuation in November after many years of service with the Linthwaite U.D.C. and the Colne Valley U.D.C. Mr. A. Schofield took up his duties as Chief Sanitary Inspector in September, and the work of reorganization and co-ordination of the various services of the department is now proceeding, but it will be necessary to increase the inspectorial staff to one Chief and three District Inspectors before the essential sanitary requirements of the district can be satisfactorily met.

The year under review has been satisfactory from a health standpoint, one fatal case of Paratyphoid B and a fairly large number of cases of Whooping Cough being the only cases of note.

To the Staff of the Department I offer my best thanks for their help and co-operation, and to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee I wish to express my appreciation of the support I have received in the various matters submitted to them during the year.

I remain, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

29 AUG 1947

1.

GENERAL PROVISION FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

As in previous years.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	324	170	154
Illegitimate	24	15	9
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			16.1

STILL BIRTHS.

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	16	11	5
Illegitimate	1	1	-
Rate per 1,000 of the total (live and still) births	46.57		

DEATHS.

Total M. F.
292 153 139

Death rate per 1,000 of the
estimated resident population 13.5

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

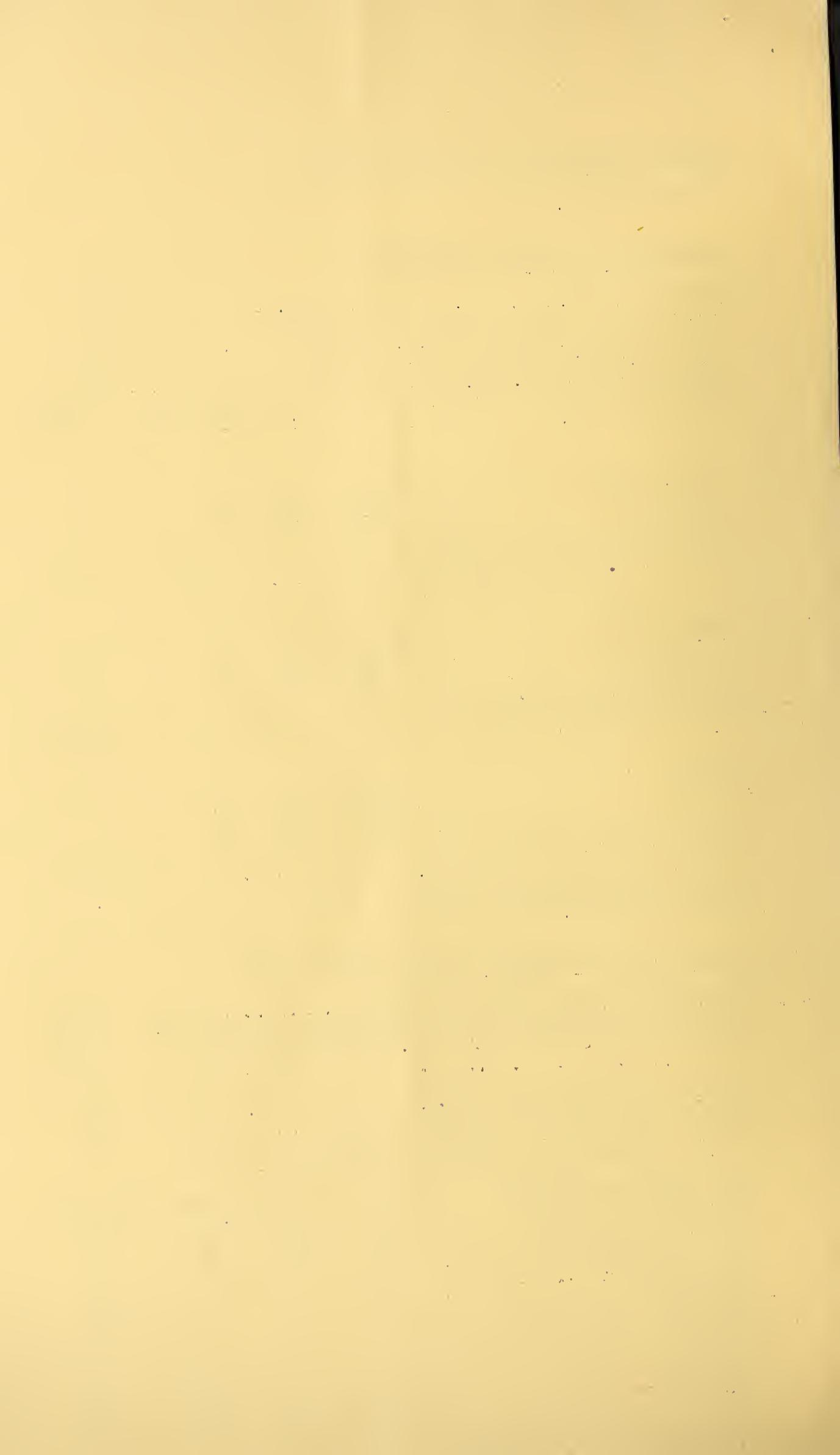
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DEATH RATE IN INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	48.84
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	46.29
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	83.53
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	42
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ..	4

MAIN GROUPS OF DEATHS.

	1	1	2	2
Diabetes	1	1	2	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	17	22	39	37
Heart Diseases	51	39	90	65
Other Circulatory Diseases	5	2	7	6
Bronchitis	7	4	11	7
Pneumonia	1	1	2	5
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	3	1	4	-
Measles	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Influenza	2	1	3	1
Cancer	15	27	42	36
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	2	3	11
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	1	4	1



PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASE.

<u>DISEASE.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Under School Age</u>	<u>School Age</u>	<u>Over School Age</u>
Scarlet Fever	15	16	31	9	18	4
Diphtheria	1	2	3	-	3	-
Measles	23	30	53	34	16	3
Whooping Cough	58	61	119	94	24	1
Pneumonia	14	7	21			
Erysipelas	3	3	6			
Paratyphoid B	1	-	1			
Dysentery	5	1	6			
Tuberculosis:						
Pulmonary	6	1	7			
Non-Pulmonary	5	1	6			

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

This year generally shows another decrease in the more serious types of infectious disease. Scarlet Fever with 31 cases compares favourably with 38 last year and 49 the previous year. Diphtheria with 3 cases compares with 8 last year. Measles shows a considerable decrease with 53 cases against 295 cases last year. Whooping Cough showed an increase with 119 cases, the last year's figure being 66. One death from Whooping Cough recorded during the year.

Tuberculosis cases at 13 again show a reduction on 18 last year and an average of 25 over the last 5 years. Seven deaths resulted from this disease.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.WATER SUPPLY.

Continued efforts to counteract the plumbago-solvent character of the supply at Woods Estate, Marsden, have resulted in the installation, towards the end of the year, of a treatment plant by Messrs. Bell Bros. Ltd., and it is anticipated that this will result in a satisfactory solution of the problem. Experiments with the plant were being carried out at the end of the year.

The percentages of supply at the end of the year were as follows:- Huddersfield Corporation 57.62%, Earl Dartmouth 11.87%, Private Supplies 15.95%, a total of 85.42% houses with a laid on supply. The balance of 14.58% houses have to carry water from nearby wells and springs.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

No extensions were carried out during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Nothing to report.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The following is a summary of the various types of



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sanitary convenience existing in the district at the end of the year:-

No. of flushed water closets	4894.
No. of waste water closets	70
No. of privies (with open middens)	56
No. of privies (with closed middens)	973
No. of pail or tub closets	459
No. of standard dustbins	6294
No. of ashpits	547

Conversions made during the year:-

Privies converted to water closets	12
Pail closets or tubs converted to water closets ..	3
Additional closets provided to old property ..	20
Dustbins provided through the Local Authority..	299

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

All former employees have now been released from the Forces and reinstated. The re-organisation of the cleansing services was commenced towards the end of the year and will be completed as quickly as possible.

SALVAGE.

One vehicle is employed full-time and one vehicle part time in this branch of the department's activities.

With the re-organisation it is anticipated that the decline in the amounts collected will be halted and a possible increase obtained.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

NUISANCES.

623 Inspections have been made in respect of 262 nuisances found during the year and 52 carried over from the previous year. 215 Nuisances have been abated, leaving a balance outstanding of 99.

120 Informal notices and 1 statutory notice have been served during the year and 69 informal and 1 statutory notices, complied with. In many of the outstanding cases the work is in the hands of contractors, and much of the work of the department has been considerably retarded by lack of materials and labour.

FACTORIES AND BAKHUSES.

There are 150 "Power" and 59 "Non-Power" factories on the Register at 31st December 1946, and these include 14

"Power" and 6 "Non-Power" bakeries. 16 Defects have been found mainly in sanitary accommodation and 7 had been remedied.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

23 Smoke observations have been taken during the year and in respect of three offences the firms concerned were visited and warned.

The work of Smoke Abatement is considerably retarded by the quality of the coal obtainable, and more than this, the difficulty of obtaining suitable firemen and of retaining their services.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

One Soap Boiler in connection with a wool scouring business and one gut scraper at the Council's Slaughterhouse are registered under this heading. Both are carried on satisfactorily.

RODENT CONTROL

There have been no major infestations during the year, and work has been confined to minor infestations on private premises and the Council's tips and other premises. One sewer maintenance treatment has been carried out, to be followed by a second treatment early in 1947.

HOUSING

11 Houses have been inspected and recorded during the year, and 2 Demolition Orders have been made. Many houses are in a very bad state of repair, and repair work to these can only be considered a temporary expedient.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

No. of Cowkeepers in the District	93
No. of Cowsheds in the District	153
Approximate No. of Milch cows	895
Producers of Graded Milk	13
No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk	76

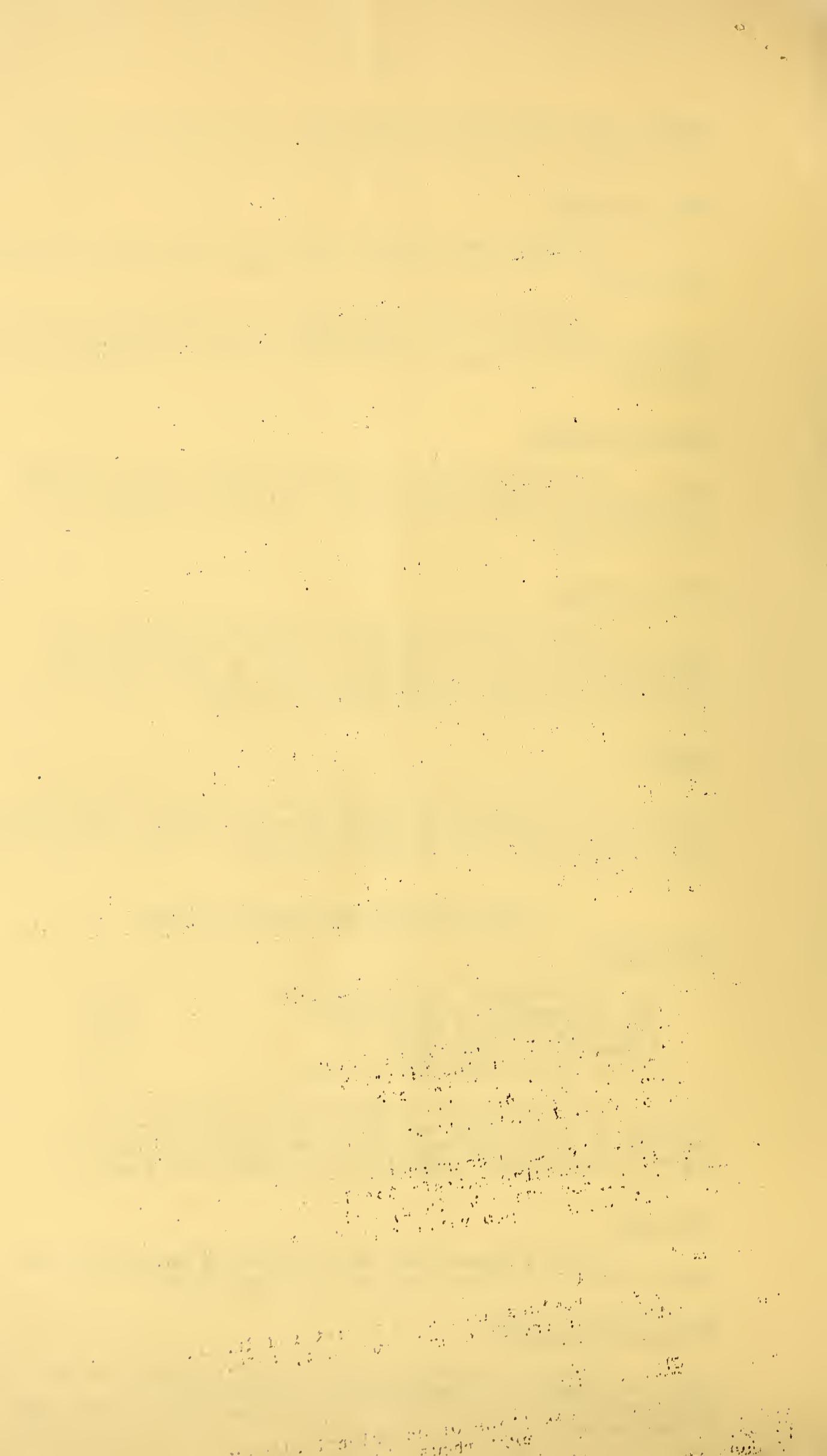
The work of reconstruction and alterations of cowsheds is progressing satisfactorily in view of the shortage of labour and materials, and the conditions with regard to cleanliness generally were found to be good.

ICE CREAM

Seven premises have been registered during the year under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

With the exception of occasional slaughtering of pigs, the Council's Slaughterhouse is used only as a distribution centre, all other slaughtering being carried out in Huddersfield.



During the year the carcases of 152 Pigs have been examined at the Council's and private Slaughterhouses, and as a result of the examinations 781 lbs. of pork found to be diseased have been surrendered.

SURRENDER OF OTHER FOODS

	100	lbs.
Chopped Meat	18	"
Butter	702 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Tinned Apricots	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
" Milk	1	"
" Peas	25	"
" Beans	3	"
" Salmon	5	"
" Pears	1	"
" Ox Tongues	3	"
" Stewed Steak	6	"
" Pilchards	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
" Luncheon Meat	67	"
Bread	30	"
Raisins	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Chocolate	15 $\frac{3}{4}$	"
Sweets	75	"
Bacon and Ham	7	"
Biscuits	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	"
Cheese	112	"
Soya Flour	56	"
Fruit Juice	1302 $\frac{1}{2}$	"

